

What is claimed is:

1 1. A secure server for securely serving content to requesters in a computer networking
2 environment, comprising:
3 means for accessing one or more read-only media or write-protected media by the secure
4 server, wherein all content to be served is embodied on the read-only media or write-protected
5 media; and
6 means for serving the content to the requesters over the computer networking
7 environment.

1 2. The secure server according to Claim 1, further comprising means for disabling write
2 access to the read-only media or write-protected media in an operating system of the secure
3 server.

1 3. The secure server according to Claim 1, wherein the read-only media or write-protected
2 media contains values used to configure the secure server.

1 4. The secure server according to Claim 3, wherein the values include an Internet Protocol
2 ("IP") address to be used for the secure server.

1 5. The secure server according to Claim 3, wherein the values include an Internet Protocol
2 ("IP") address and a port number to be used for the secure server.

1 6. The secure server according to Claim 3, wherein the values include a plurality of pairs of
2 Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses and port numbers, each pair of which is to be used for a
3 different network adapter of the secure server.

1 7. The secure server according to Claim 1, wherein the secure server is a Web server and the
2 content to be served is Web documents.

1 8. The secure server according to Claim 1, wherein the secure server is a File Transfer
2 Protocol ("FTP") server and the content to be served is downloadable files.

1 9. The secure server according to Claim 1, wherein the means for serving the content further
2 comprises:

3 means for receiving requests from clients for content;

4 means for locating the requested content on the read-only media or write-protected media;

5 and

6 means for serving the located content to the requesting clients.

1 10. The secure server according to Claim 9, further comprising:

2 means for detecting availability of a different read-only media or write-protected media;

3 and

4 wherein the means for locating the requested content and the means for serving the

5 located content then uses the different read-only media or write-protected media for requests

6 received after the detection.

1 11. The secure server according to Claim 1, further comprising means for loading at least a
2 subset of the content to be served from the read-only media or write-protected media into
3 updateable system memory of the secure server, and wherein the means for serving the content to
4 the requesters serves the subset of the content from the updateable system memory.

1 12. The secure server according to Claim 11, further comprising means for repeating the
2 loading upon expiration of a refresh timer.

1 13. The secure server according to Claim 12, wherein a value for the refresh timer is specified
2 as a configuration value on the read-only media or write-protected media.

1 14. A method of securely serving content to requesters in a computer networking environment
2 by embodying all content to be served on one or more read-only media or write-protected media
3 accessible by a secure server which serves the content to the requesters.

1 15. A method of securely serving content to requesters in a computer networking
2 environment, comprising steps of:
3 receiving, over the computer networking environment, a request from a client for content
4 at a secure server;
5 accessing one or more read-only media or write-protected media by the secure server,

6 wherein all content to be served is embodied on the read-only media or write-protected media;
7 locating the requested content on the read-only media or write-protected media; and
8 serving the located content to the requesting client over the computer networking
9 environment.

1 16. The method according to Claim 15, further comprising the step of loading at least a
2 subset of the content to be served from the read-only media or write-protected media into
3 updateable system memory of the secure server, and wherein:

4 the locating step may locate the requested content on the read-only media or write-
5 protected media, if the requested content is not in the loaded subset, or in the updateable system
6 memory otherwise; and

7 the step of serving the located content to the requesting client serves the located content
8 from the read-only media or write-protected media or from the updateable system memory, as
9 appropriate.

10 17. A computer program product for securely serving content to requesters in a computer
11 networking environment, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-
12 readable media and comprising:

13 computer-readable program code means for receiving, over the computer networking
14 environment, a request from a client for content at a secure server;

15 computer-readable program code means for accessing one or more read-only media or
16 write-protected media by the secure server, wherein all content to be served is embodied on the

8 read-only media or write-protected media;
9 computer-readable program code means for locating the requested content on the read-
10 only media or write-protected media; and
11 computer-readable program code means for serving the located content to the requesting
12 client over the computer networking environment.

1 18. The computer program product according to Claim 17, further comprising computer-
2 readable program code means for loading at least a subset of the content to be served from the
3 read-only media or write-protected media into updateable system memory of the secure server,
4 and wherein:
5 the computer-readable program code means for locating may locate the requested content
6 on the read-only media or write-protected media, if the requested content is not in the loaded
7 subset, or in the updateable system memory otherwise; and
8 the computer-readable program code means for serving the located content to the
9 requesting client serves the located content from the read-only media or write-protected media or
10 from the updateable system memory, as appropriate.

1 19. A method of doing business by securely serving content to requesters in a network
2 computing environment, comprising:
3 providing hosting services for content to be served to requesters;
4 ensuring that the content to be served cannot be altered from its intended content by
5 embodying the content on read-only media or write-protected media;

- 6 receiving requests for the content;
- 7 locating the requested content on the read-only media or write-protected media; and
- 8 serving the located content.

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